

# Plant Disease in Kansas

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Special points of interest:

Results of Thousand Cankers

Survey in Black Walnut
Wheat disease update

### Walnut survey results for Thousand Cankers Disease

The 2011 walnut survey has been completed and all results were negative. The survey focused on eastern Kansas where survey over the past few years has been limited. The survey was in part funded by USDA farm bill money.

A number of suspects were found in east central and southeast Kansas by temporary personnel. These were later followed up and found to be flagging and dieback from weather related decay and the severe drought that caused these decayed trees to flag somewhat similarly to TCD symptoms. Symptoms of decay included flagging, misshapen branches, broken decayed "stumpy" branches. Walnut twig beetle entry and exit holes

were not present but some borer damage (much

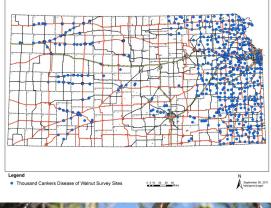
larger holes/tunneling) were observed.

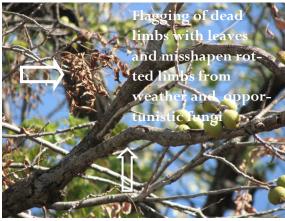


Images below compare a TCD canker with walnut twig beetle nuptial chamber (left) and non-TCD cankers (right) seen in Kansas survey (clue: no walnut twig beetle chambers). Kansas suspects were negative for TCD fungus by KSU Plant Pathology Diagnostic Clinic.



Figure 6. Walnut twig beetle and associated staining around tunn





No insect gallery with this canker associated with walnut decline in KS.

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### Plant Protection and Weed Control Program

Plant Protection and Weed Control staff work to ensure the health of the state's native and cultivated plants by excluding or controlling destructive pests, diseases and weeds. Staff examine and analyze pest conditions in crop fields, rangelands, greenhouses and nurseries. Action taken to control potential infestations of new pests, whether they are insects, plants diseases or weeds, is beneficial to the economy and the environment.

#### Our Mission is to:

- Exclude or control harmful insects, plant diseases, and weeds;
- Ensure Kansas plants and plant products entering commerce are free from quarantine pests;
- Provide customers with inspection and certification services.

The Plant Disease Survey in Kansas has been conducted since 1976. The survey addresses disease situations in field crops, native ecosystems, and horticultural trade. The Kansas Department of Agriculture works cooperatively with Kansas State University and Extension programs, United States Department of Agriculture, and various commodity groups.

## Update on fall planted wheat

Recent rains over the weekend have been especially timely for the fall planted wheat crop. During survey of last week in central and western Kansas, emerged plants were under stress from dry soil conditions and significant wind erosion. Large areas of planted wheat in the western half of the state were blowing from high southerly winds. Some crowns were exposed on terraced areas and hillsides. Now with recent rains, wheat stands should improve greatly.

As far as wheat disease, the good news is that volunteer wheat was not observed in any significant acreage in limited survey of a 50 mile area centered around Hays. Volunteer wheat often is the link in carrying over virus disease through the summer. Because of the extreme dry conditions, volunteer has not been an issue. Additional survey this fall should help in determining the risk of virus in the fall planted either from volunteer or weed and native grass alternate hosts.